

North Dakota Department of Health (NDDoH)  
**Standing Orders for the Treatment of Gonorrhea**

Patient Eligibility:

- Indicated for patients with a positive test for gonorrhea.
- Recent exposure (within 60 days) to a known positive case of gonorrhea.
  - Patient provides the name of sexual partner and the Registered Nurse verifies diagnosis of named sexual partner with NDDoH or by calling the medical provider of the sexual partner.
- No allergies to medications.

Patient Exclusion:

- If **ANY** allergies to medications must call healthcare provider to receive a verbal or written order for treatment.
- If **ANY** signs or symptoms of genital /pelvic infection, must refer to healthcare provider.
- If patient is pregnant or breastfeeding, must refer to a healthcare provider.

Patient Education:

1. Provide and review with patient the following fact sheet:  
<http://www.cdc.gov/std/gonorrhea/gon-factsheet-july-2014.pdf>
2. Prevention of future STI's and risks of untreated STI's.
3. Instructions on the medication (to include benefits, risks, side effects, warning signs).
4. **Abstain from sexual activity for seven days after treatment and for seven days after all sex partners have completed their treatment.**
5. Provide patient with condoms for correct and consistent use post treatment.
6. Obtain names of all sexual contacts from the last sixty days and complete the NDDoH-STD Report Form for Healthcare Providers and fax to local epidemiologist.
7. Return for test of cure 14 days after treatment if positive for **pharyngeal** gonorrhea.
8. Retest 3 months after treatment. If retesting at 3 months is not possible, the patient should be retested whenever they present for medical care in the 12 month period following initial treatment.

Nursing Action:

Registered Nurse may treat any eligible patient as defined above after notification to the healthcare provider of the positive test result.

Administer:      Ceftriaxone 250mg IM in a single dose  
                                         **PLUS**  
                                         Azithromycin 1 gram orally in a single dose  
                                         (This medication can be taken with or without food)

The Registered Nurse must observe the patient taking this medication (cannot be sent home for later use).

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
                                         Agency Medical Director